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Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 02477 182026Z

71
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 AF-10 IO-14 ACDA-19 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /157 W
---------- 014651
R 181528Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5292

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, CZ, US, IS
SUBJ: CZECHOSLOVAK PRESS TREATMENT OF MIDDLE EAST WAR

1. INITIAL CZECHOSLOVAK REPORTING ON WAR IN MIDDLE EAST WAS SOMEWHAT RESTRAINED, LARGELY REPLAYING REPORTS FROM WESTERN, ISRAELI, AND ARAB SOURCES. COMMENTARY EMPHASIZED JUSTICE OF ARAB CAUSE AND ONDEMNED ISRAELI "AGRESSION." WITH BEGINNING OF U.S. RE-SUPPLY REPORTING AND COMMENTARY HAVE TAKEN ON ANTI-AMERICAN TONE, PARTICULARLY IN REPORTING ALLEGED PARTICIPATION OF AMERICAN PILOTS IN AIR WAR. THESE CHARGES FIRST SURFACED IN OCTOBER 16 BRATISLAVA "PRAVDA" ARTICLE ON MIDDLE EAST WAR WHICH WAS HEADLINED "KILLERS FROM VIETNAM" AND SAID THAT VIETNAM-TRAINED U.S. PILOTS WERE FIGHTING FOR ISRAEL.

2. COMMENTARY BY MILAN JELINEK OCTOBER 18 "RUDE PRAVO" CAPTIONED "MERCENARIES" CHARGES THAT "TERRORIST RAIDS ON SYRIAN TOWNS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT JOINTLY BY ISRAELIS AND U.S. PILOTS WHO HAD TAKEN PART IN THE AMERICAN AGGRESSION AGAINST VIETNAM." AFTER STATING THAT INTRODUCTION OF U.S. PILOTS NECESSARY DUE TO ISRAELI PILOT LOSSES, AUTHOR SAYS "BURNING TOWNS OF HOMS, LATAKIA, TARTUS, AND DAMASCUS, DESTROYED HOSPITALS AND SCHOOLS, NAPALM, MURDERING OF SYRIAN CIVILIAN POPULATION--THAT
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PAGE 02 PRAGUE 02477 182026Z

IS A PRACTICE OF AMERICAN AIR WAR IN VIETNAM, WORK OF

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SAME PILOTS WHO DESTROYED HANOI AND HAIPHONG AND
KILLED WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN VIETNAM." JALINEK SAYS
"30,000 VOLUNTEERS ARE WAITING IN WASHINGTON.. AMERICAN
WARRIORS FROM VIETNAM WHOM THE WHOLE WORLD HAS LEARNED
TO CALL 'KILLERS'..ISRAEL WILL BE PAYING...FOR THEIR
COMBAT EXPERIENCE FROM THE MY-LAI MASSACRE, SOUTH VIETNAM,
LAOS, AND CAMBODIA. HE CONCLUDES BY SAYING THAT
U.S. BEARS GRAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SITUATION WHICH
HAS "ON ONE SIDE ARABS, FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM AND INTEGRITY
OF THEIR FATHERLAND, AND ON OTHER THE AGRESSOR, STOCKED
BY U.S. DOLLARS AND WEAPONRY, AND NOW BY AMERICAN
KILLERS FROM VIETNAM AS WELL."

3. EMBASSY IS INFORMALLY TAKING UP ARTICLES WITH MFA OFFICIALS.

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